

# Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR</b>
<b>(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME</b> <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
<b>National Geospatial Advisory Committee</b>
<b>(2) AUTHORITY</b> <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
<p>The National Geospatial Advisory Committee is established under the authority of the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2. It has been determined that the Committee is in the public interest in connection with the duties of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), which the Secretary chairs, and the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-16 Revised and Executive Order 12906.</p>
<b>(3) MISSION/FUNCTION</b> <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
<p>The Committee will provide advice and recommendations related to management of Federal and national geospatial programs, development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and implementation of OMB Circular A-16 Revised and Executive Order 12906. The Committee will review and comment upon geospatial policy and management issues and will provide a forum to convey views representative of non-Federal stakeholders in the geospatial community.</p>
<b>(4) POINTS OF VIEW</b> <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider indentifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
<p>The Committee will be composed of up to 30 representatives or special Government employees, who will be selected to generally achieve a balanced representation of the viewpoints of the various stakeholders involved in national geospatial activities and the development of the NSDI. Selection of Committee members will include consideration of geographic balance. The Committee membership will include balanced representation from among, but not limited to, the following stakeholder groups involved in the geospatial community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Government</li> <li>• State government</li> <li>• County government</li> <li>• Regional government</li> <li>• City/Municipal government</li> <li>• Tribal government</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• User industries</li> </ul>

- Professional associations
- Non-profit organizations
- Academia

The Secretary will appoint Committee members to the Committee. Staggered terms will be used to promote continuity of Committee operations. Appointments will be for terms of 3 years. Committee members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. However, after a 2 year break in service, that member will again be eligible for appointment. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

Any vacancies will be filled in the same manner in which initial appointments were made.

The Secretary appoints the Chairperson.

#### **(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS**

*List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC*

Other factors will include consideration of geographic balance.

#### **(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS**

*Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:*

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

In order to obtain members, the Department of the Interior announces a 30-day open call for nominations period in the Federal Register and the DFO will solicit candidate names from the Federal agencies.

The DFO will develop a candidate list that will be evaluated by the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science (for relevant experience/expertise), A short list of the best qualified candidates will be developed and discussed with the Assistant Secretary.

The resulting top candidates will be vetted by the White House Liaison and approved for appointment. Formal letters of invitation to serve on the Committee will be extended by the Secretary.

A vacancy on the Committee will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Members serve for 3-year terms.

#### **(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE**

*Subcommittees subject to FACA\* should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

*\*This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

#### **(8) OTHER**

<i>Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC</i>
<b>Not applicable.</b>
<b>(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED</b> <i>Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated</i>
<b>01/03/2012</b>